



**THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF HALTWHISTLE**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
J. M. McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

and of

THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1972

STAFF :

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{ *Medical
Officer
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{ *Public
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Mrs. M. M. THOBURN - -

Clerk Typist

*To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council
of Haltwhistle :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1972.

Conditions in the District did not change to any appreciable extent during the year, and nothing but gradual change is to be anticipated. As happens in most Rural Districts the population continues to decrease slowly, and there is a re-distribution from the periphery to the centre although this cannot be measured. The small remote villages have been given modern amenities wherever possible, but the problems of employment, communication and housing, and the fact that the Council are building in the town only, all tend to attract people to Haltwhistle itself. Despite the slow decline in population, the District remains economically viable and with an active Council should continue so. The closure of the railway line to Alston has again been proposed, but no suitable replacement by road would meet the needs of all the small communities along the line, especially in winter. A number of schemes for preserving the railway link with Alston have been suggested and the Council will not accept closure easily. There is still uncertainty about the future life of Bardon Mill Colliery, a relatively large employer of labour, and here again the Council are doing all they can to minimise any hardship which may be caused. As a final general comment the amalgamation with four neighbouring authorities to form the new Tynedale District is agreed, and while the number of Councillors from Haltwhistle to this new body will be relatively few they will I am sure see that the interests of the District are not overlooked.

The estimated mid-year population in 1972 was 6620, a further reduction of 80, and deaths outnumbered births by 32. The birth rate was 14.1 per 1000 population compared with the national average of 14.8 per 1000, while the death rate of 14.7 per 1000 compared rather unfavourably with the national average of 12.1 per 1000. Too much significance should not however be attached to the figures for one year only. There were no infant deaths, a satisfactory circumstance set against the lower birth rate. The degenerative diseases accounted for the majority of deaths, and over half

the deaths were of persons aged 75 or over, the highest age group. The vital statistics can therefore be considered satisfactory.

Only 8 cases of infectious diseases were notified, all being of scarlet fever. This is now a relatively mild disease, and the cases were sporadic. Two cases of tuberculosis were notified, one pulmonary and one non-pulmonary, with no deaths. It has been apparent for a number of years that the epidemiological part of the Medical Officer of Health's duties has been of decreasing importance, but the infectious diseases are by no means a thing of the past and vigilance is still required. The continued absence of the most serious infections is of course due to the implementation of an effective immunisation programme and credit must largely go to the family doctors and the County Council staff.

Sixteen flats for aged persons were built by the Council during 1972 and ten houses were built privately. Under construction were 17 flats for old people at Tynedale Grange and 10 bungalows at Tynedale Court which will have the full advantages of a resident warden, central heating, a common room, a laundry and a bell warning system and will therefore be admirably suited to the needs of the frail elderly and handicapped. The Council have a very good record in the housing of old people and these new schemes will be most useful additions to the provisions already made. No general purpose houses were built during the year. Full advantage has been taken both by the Council and by owners or landlords of property of the enhanced improvement grants under the discretionary scheme, and almost twice as many houses were modernised as in any previous year. The value of the grants system in a District such as Haltwhistle is incalculable, and nearly 600 houses have now been kept in occupation by this means.

The larger communities have already been provided with modern sewage treatment plants and this amenity has now been extended to the smaller villages. The works at Plenmeller and Coanwood were virtually completed during 1972, while the schemes at Slaggyford, Knaresdale and Lambley make satisfactory progress. The joint scheme with Border Rural District Council to improve the sewerage and sewage disposal facilities in Gilsland is still under consideration.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company as statutory water undertakers supply almost the whole District with water that is satisfactory in quantity and quality. The main supply is being extended wherever the cost is reasonable and now only seven houses depend on a standpipe. The Company take regular water samples and remedy any defects found, while the Health Department provide similar services for proposed and private supplies.

In submitting this report I acknowledge with pleasure the support and interest of the Chairman and Councillors, and the courtesy and ready co-operation of the Clerk and other officers. The Public Health Inspector continues to undertake the day-to-day work of the Department in a most efficient manner.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Haltwhistle Rural District is 96,333 acres. The only town is Haltwhistle, the other centres of population being villages.

The estimated population for 1972 is 6,620 which is a decrease of 80 from 1971.

The number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1972 was 2,550.

The rateable value at 31st March, 1972, is £185,297.

The sum represented by a penny rate at 31st March, 1972 is £1728.33.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The population of the Haltwhistle Rural District estimated at 30th June, 1972 was 6,620.

Birth Rate

There were 75 live births, giving a birth rate of 14.1 per 1,000 population when the comparability factor is applied. It compares with 14.8 per 1,000 population for all England and Wales.

Of the total of 75 live births, 7 were illegitimate. As in 1971, there were no still births.

Infantile Mortality

There were no deaths of infants under one year. The infant mortality rate is Nil per 1,000 live births, the rate for England and Wales being 17 per 1,000.

General Death Rate

A total of 107 deaths occurred during 1972 a decrease of 1 on 1971. When the comparability factor is applied, the death rate is 14.7 per 1,000 population. The figure for all England and Wales is 12.1 per 1,000.

13 deaths were due to Cancer, compared with 17 in 1971.

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY

Live Births :

Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population	..	..					14.1
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births							9.0

Stillbirths :

Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..					Nil
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..			75
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	..	..					Nil

Infant Mortality Rates :

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	..						Nil
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per, 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..				Nil
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live Births)	..	..	..				Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

Maternal Mortality (including abortion) :

Number of deaths	..	..	..	..	..		Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..					Nil

HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

(a) HALTWHISTLE WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Surgeon :	Mr. C. I. Raeburn, F.R.C.S. (Ed.
Gynaecologist :	Mr. D. T. Barber, F.R.C.S.
Physician :	Dr. J. B. Ryder, M.D., F.R.C.P.
Matron :	Miss E. M. Armstrong.

This hospital, which includes a modern Maternity Wing, is under the Management of the Hexham and District Management Committee.

(i) *X-Ray Department.*

X-Ray examinations are carried out in emergency cases only.

Consultant Radiologist : Dr. W. Davidson.

(ii) *Gynaecologist Out-Patient Department.*

First Tuesday every month at 11-30 a.m.

(iii) *Surgical Out-Patient Department.*

Wednesdays, 12 noon.

(iv) *Medical Out-Patient Department.*

Alternate Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

(v) *Physio-Therapy Department.*

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, all day.

(b) HEXHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL

Accommodation at this hospital is available for patients from this district. A number of medical cases for detailed investigation and some major emergency surgical cases are referred there and such special facilities as Physiotherapy are available.

(c) CARLISLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

WALKERGATE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

Cases of infectious disease requiring In-patient treatment are accommodated at the above hospitals.

Midwifery Service

(a) *Ante-Natal Care.*

Two clinics per month are held at the Haltwhistle Clinic by the local doctors.

(b) *Haltwhistle Hospital.*

The majority of the expectant mothers in the district are confined in the Haltwhistle Hospital.

The services of a visiting Gynaecologist, together with his staff, have proved of great assistance and are also available for emergency work.

(c) *Domiciliary Service.*

Two midwives reside in the area :

Miss Brown, 1 Bridge Street, Haltwhistle.
Telephone 368.

Mrs. Blakey, Wesley Manse, Moor View, Haltwhistle.
Telephone 214.

Cars are provided for the use of the Nurses to attend cases in this extensive district.

Home Help Service

The County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district.

Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required in cases of illness, but priority is given to domiciliary maternity cases.

More and more use is being made of the Service by old people and the chronic sick.

County Orthopaedic Service

The Orthopaedic Clinic for Children is held at Hexham General Hospital every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon attends on the fourth Tuesday every month at Hexham General Hospital and on the second Wednesday of every month at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic.

Child Welfare Service

Clinics are held at Haltwhistle Clinic every Thursday by the Child Welfare Medical Officer and the Health Visitor.

School Dental Clinic

Clinics are held every Monday and Thursday, and Friday of alternate weeks at Haltwhistle Clinic. The Dentist visits the various schools in the district.

Dental Officer — Mr. I. W. Atchison, B.D.S.

Public Health Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory, under the Director, J. H. Hale, is located at the Newcastle General Hospital.

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths

Registrar : Mrs. F. Robinson.

Office : C.W.S. Building, Main Street,
Haltwhistle.

Hours : Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays :—
11 a.m. to 12 noon.
Thursdays :—2—3 p.m.

TABLE I

The following table shows the principal vital mortality rates for the year 1958-72.

YEAR	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	General Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Death Rate from Respiratory T.B. per 1,000 Living
1958	14.22	10.18	9.51	.00
1959	13.66	12.73	19.42	.00
1960	11.26	13.87	12.19	.00
1961	15.81	13.5	18.35	.00
1962	14.45	13.87	40.4	.00
1963	14.76	13.19	39.6	.68
1964	15.75	13.01	42.55	.68
1965	16.06	14.35	.00	.00
1966	16.05	10.22	31.91	.00
1967	14.78	11.44	11.62	.00
1968	12.17	13.49	25.75	.00
1969	13.5	14.8	57.5	.15
1970	13.2	12.2	12.82	.00
1971	15.8	15.1	33.00	.00
1972	14.1	14.7	.00	.00

TABLE II.
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	YEAR												
	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Small Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	2	3	1	21	5	15	58	17	29	10	3	2	8
Whooping Cough ..	1	—	—	1	32	—	—	12	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	12	266	—	79	112	96	15	147	8	2	9	13	—
Pneumonia ..	5	2	1	21	8	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	20	271	2	126	158	118	77	177	37	31	12	16	8

TABLE III.
TUBERCULOSIS.

Age. Periods	NEW NOTIFICATIONS						DEATHS					
	Respiratory			Non- Respiratory			Respiratory			Non- Respiratory		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 +	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.
NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

YEAR	Registered Births					Illegitimate Births (included in Registered Births)				
	Live Births		Still Births			Live Births		Still Births		
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1959	58	45	—	1	104	—	2	—	1	3
1960	42	40	1	2	85	1	3	—	1	5
1961	61	48	1	1	111	4	1	—	—	5
1962	45	54	2	1	102	1	1	—	—	2
1963	61	40	1	—	102	—	3	—	—	3
1964	55	39	1	1	96	2	4	—	—	6
1965	47	48	1	1	97	3	1	—	—	4
1966	57	37	—	1	95	—	—	—	—	—
1967	41	45	—	1	87	2	1	—	—	3
1968	44	29	—	—	73	—	3	—	—	3
1969	43	37	—	—	80	1	1	—	—	2
1970	37	41	—	1	79	1	—	—	—	1
1971	43	49	—	—	92	1	3	—	—	4
1972	34	41	—	—	75	4	3	—	—	7

TABLE V.
INFANT DEATHS

Deaths of Infants Under 1 year of age.			Deaths of Infants Under 4 weeks of age		
	M.	F.		M.	F.
Legitimate ..	—	—	Legitimate ..	—	—
Illegitimate	—	—	Illegitimate	—	—
	—	—		—	—

TABLE VI
CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

	M.	F.	Total
Congenital Anomalies	—	—	—
Birth Injury, difficult Labour etc.	—	—	—
	—	—	—

TABLE VII
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES

CAUSES OF DEATH	M.	F.
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. ..	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ..	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System	—	1
Hypertensive Disease	1	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	26	8
Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	7	18
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	4	9
Influenza	2	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ..	1	—
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal System..	—	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	2
All other Accidents	1	—
TOTAL	54	53

TABLE VIII
AGES AT DEATH

	M.	F.	Total
Under 4 weeks	—	—	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	—	—	—
1 — 4 years	—	—	—
5 — 14 „	—	—	—
15 — 24 „	—	—	—
25 — 34 „	—	—	—
35 — 44 „	—	3	3
45 — 54 „	3	1	4
55 — 64 „	7	4	11
65 — 74	21	13	34
75 and over	23	32	55
	54	53	107

REPORT
of the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
For the Year Ended 31st December, 1972

W. FORSTER,
M.A.P.H.I.

Duties :
Public Health.
Housing.

Meat and Foods
Inspection.

Council House
Allocation.

Refuse Collection
and Disposal.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year, in conjunction with the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company 85 samples of water were taken from public supplies for bacteriological examination.

As will be seen from the following table, one sample from the supply at Slaggyford, one sample from the supply at Thorngraston and one sample from the supply at Waterloo fell below the accepted standards. As a result of investigation, the tanks were cleaned out, and check samples gave satisfactory results.

Including new houses 51 additional properties were connected to the public mains during the year.

Public Supplies

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SAMPLES

	No. of Samples Taken	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatis- factory
Haltwhistle	13	13	—
Melkridge	4	4	—
Gilsland	2	2	—
Greenhead	4	4	—
Bardon Mill	3	3	—
Henshaw	3	3	—
Slaggyford	13	12	1
Halton-lea-Gate	7	7	—
Thorngraston	14	13	1
Coanwood	1	1	—
Waterloo	13	12	1
Park Village	1	1	—
Lambley	4	4	—
Featherstone	3	3	—
	85	82	3

Details of Houses and Population Supplied from Public Mains

Parish	No. of Houses Direct from Mains	Estimated Population	No. of Houses Served by Standpipes	Estimated Population
Bardon Mill ..	103	275	2	4
Coanwood ..	56	179	—	—
Featherstone ..	52	135	5	10
Greenhead ..	75	200	—	—
Haltwhistle ..	1390	4075	—	—
Hartleyburn ..	93	273	—	—
Henshaw ..	174	500	—	—
Melkridge ..	58	180	—	—
Plenmeller with Whitfield ..	29	90	—	—
Kirkhaugh with Knaresdale ..	68	200	—	—
Thirlwall ..	148	473	—	—
	2246	6580	7	14

Sources closed or discontinued	—	No. of Houses	..	..	—
New Service provided :—					
(a) By Local Authority ..	Nil	No. of Houses	..	..	Nil
(b) By Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company	51	No. of Houses	..	..	51
(c) By Private Owner ..	—	No. of Houses	..	..	—

HOUSING

COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING

In October, the extension of the Greenholme Road Aged Persons Scheme by the addition of a further sixteen flats was completed, at the same time, the eleven bungalows on Holmeside Crescent were brought into the bell warning system of Greenholme Road, and are now Warden supervised.

The Holme Terrace scheme of Aged Persons Dwellings which will provide ten bungalows and a block containing seventeen flats, together with Warden accommodation was in progress during the year, and it is anticipated that the houses will be ready for occupation in the early part of next year.

New Houses Completed During the Year

New Houses completed during the Year.	With State Assistance.	Unaided.	Total
(a) By Local Authority .. Greenholme Rd. Scheme	16	—	16
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By private persons ..	—	10	10
	16	10	26

Houses under Construction at 31/12/72.

Houses under construction at end of year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By local Authority Holme Terrace Scheme	28	—	28
(b) By other persons or bodies	—	5	5
	28	5	33

The total number of houses owned by the Council is now 613, of which 81 are for Aged persons, this figure also includes the Warden's flat at Greenholme Road and the Caretaker's Cottage at Greencroft Lodge.

Details of Council Housing Estates are shown in the following tables.

Details of Council Housing Estates as at 31/12/72
General Purpose Houses

ESTATE	TYPE OF HOUSE					
	3 BR	3 BR Maison- ette	2 BR	2 BR Flat Ground Floor	2 BR Flat First Floor	TOTAL
<i>Haltwhistle :</i>						
Greencroft	24	—	—	—	—	24
Greencroft Lodge	—	—	1	—	—	1
Park Road	31	—	—	—	—	31
Park Avenue	24	—	—	—	—	24
Central Drive	36	—	10	—	—	46
Greencroft Avenue	11	—	—	—	—	11
Fell View ..	—	—	16	—	—	16
Comb Hill Road	14	—	—	—	—	14
Moorland Avenue	26	—	—	4	4	34
Newholme Avenue	44	—	—	4	4	52
Fairholme Avenue	12	—	—	—	—	12
Capel Avenue	10	—	—	8	8	26
Castle Hill	—	—	2	—	—	2
High Row	—	—	3	—	—	3
Westlands	34	—	2	—	—	36
Railway Terrace	—	—	5	—	—	5
Burn Close	14	—	—	—	—	14
Woodhead Lane	—	—	—	8	8	16
Woodhead Close	—	18	—	6	—	24
Greenholme Close	—	20	—	10	—	30
Warden's Flat	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greenholme Road	—	—	—	—	1	1
	280	38	39	40	25	422
<i>Longbyre :</i>						
Holyrood Place	2	—	—	—	—	2
<i>Greenhead :</i>						
Milburn Terrace	1	—	4	—	—	5
<i>Coanwood :</i>						
High Ridley	8	—	—	—	—	8
<i>Gilsland :</i>						
Rosehill ..	13	—	—	—	—	13
<i>Bardon Mill :</i>						
Broadacres ..	36	—	8	—	—	44
<i>Halton-Lea-Gate :</i>						
Leaside ..	30	—	8	—	—	38
	370	38	59	40	25	532

Aged Persons Dwellings

ESTATE	Bungalows	D. Smith Bungalows	Ground Floor Flat	First Floor Flat	Totals
Holmeside Cresc.	11	—	—	—	11
Meadow Close . .	12	—	—	—	12
Greenholme Rd.	—	—	24	24	48
D. Smith B'low's	—	10	—	—	10
	23	10	24	24	81

Council House Applications

At the end of the year there were 110 applications for general purpose houses and 44 for aged persons dwellings.

The 16 aged persons flats at Greenholme Road, and the 27 aged persons dwellings in course of erection at Holme Terrace were allocated during the year. As a result of casual vacancies a further 24 families were rehoused, 18 into general purpose houses and 6 into aged persons dwellings. By exchanges of tenancies and transfers 16 families were moved into houses more suitable to their needs.

HOUSING ACT 1971.

Extensions of Provisions to 23rd June, 1974.

In Circular 44/72 issued by the Department of the Environment in April, the Minister stated that he recognised that the pressure to get works done by June 1973 had overloaded the local authority administration and in some areas, the capacity of the building industry resulting in some sharp increases in tender prices. The Government had therefore decided to introduce legislation at the appropriate time to extend by a year the date before which works must be completed in order to qualify for the higher rates of grant under the Housing Act, 1971. This would now run until 23rd June, 1974 and local authorities, house-owners, builders and others concerned in house improvement in the assisted areas, of which Haltwhistle R.D.C. is one, could proceed on that basis.

The Minister went on to stress that this was a once and for all extension and emphasised the necessity for all concerned to press ahead as fast as possible if the maximum advantage was to be derived from the increased grants.

Improvement Grants

During the year 97 applications for improvement grant were received, the highest number in any year since the introduction of the scheme in 1949, of the 97 properties involved, 62 were owner occupied and 35 were tenanted, one of which was council owned. Grants amounting to £105,810 were approved.

During the year, works of improvement were completed in respect of 55 properties and grants amounting to £55,657 were passed for payment.

Since the inception of this scheme in 1949, the total number of houses for which grant approval has been given is 586. Of this number 412 were for owner occupied properties and 174 for rented houses 6 of these being council owned.

Standard Grants

During the year standard amenities were provided in 3 properties and grants amounting to £637 were passed for payment.

Since this type of grant was introduced in 1960, 119 properties have been provided with standard amenities which they previously lacked. Of these properties 69 were owner occupied and 50 were tenanted, 16 of the latter being council owned.

Summary of Discretionary Grants Approved

Year	Number of Houses	Owner Occupied	Rented	Amount of Grant Approved £
1950	6	6	—	717
1951	7	5	2	1142
1952	11	9	2	2424
1953	12	9	3	2585
1954	23	13	10	4239
1955	25	20	5	6203
1956	23	13	10	5089
1957	26	16	10	6160
1958	27	23	4	7391
1959	10	7	3	1964
1960	20	13	7	4256
1961	17	13	4	4097
1962	20	13	7	4344
1963	16	11	5	3994
1964	22	12	10	4494
1965	17	6	11	4471
1966	16	15	1	4434
1967	9	8	1	3162
1968	42	35	7	11201
1969	39	32	7	13376
1970	49	34	15	21585
1971	52	37	15	48100
1972	97	62	35	105810
	586	412	174	271378

Summary of Standard Grants Completed

Year	No. of houses	L.A.	Priv-ate	Owner Occu-pied	Ren-tered	Basic Amenities provided					
						Bath	Wash hand basin	Hot Water Supply	Internal W.C.	Food Store	Sink
1959	2	—	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	
1960	6	—	6	4	2	3	3	4	4	4	
1961	15	2	13	12	3	8	8	7	15	4	
1962	22	13	9	7	15	6	21	6	9	5	
1963	7	1	6	2	5	4	5	4	6	1	
1964	16	—	16	8	8	11	14	12	16	13	
1965	5	—	5	4	1	4	4	4	5	4	
1966	5	—	5	1	4	4	4	4	5	3	
1967	7	—	7	3	4	5	5	5	7	1	
1968	7	—	7	6	1	5	5	5	7	5	
1969	16	—	16	14	2	8	7	9	16	5	
1970	6	—	6	3	3	4	6	6	6	—	
1971	2	—	2	2	—	2	2	2	2	—	2
1972	3	—	3	2	1	2	2	3	2	—	2
	119	16	103	69	50	68	88	72	101	47	4

Unfit Houses

In September a Demolition Order was served on British Rail in accordance with the provisions of Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957 in respect of No. 27 Greengate Crossing, Melkridge.

Certificates of Qualification

During the year nine applications for certificates of qualification were received, these were made under Section 44(2) of the Housing Act 1969 and referred to properties the tenancies of which were controlled, and for which the owners had submitted proposals for improvement, and wished to make applications to the Rent Officer for fair rents to be fixed. Certificates of provisional approval were given in all cases.

Total Number of Qualification Certificates Issued.

Year	Improvement Cases	Standard Amenities Provided	Total
1970	2	—	2
1971	2	1	3
1972	1	1	2

Inspection and Supervision of Food

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district.

Summary of Unsound Food Surrendered or Seized

During the year 270 lbs. of various foodstuffs were certified as unfit for human consumption, details are shown in the following tables.

Unsound Food	Surrendered		Seized		Legal Proceedings
	No. of Tins	Weight Lbs.	No. of Tins	Weight Lbs.	
Carcase Meat ..	—	162	—	—	—
Tinned Meats ..	9	18	—	—	—
Tinned Fruit ..	17	16	—	—	—
Tinned Vegetables..	22	20	—	—	—
Other Foods ..	5	4	—	—	—
Frozen Foods ..	—	50	—	—	—
	53	270	—	—	—

Food Inspection

239 visits to food premises were made during the year. The standard of cleanliness of both premises and personnel continues to be satisfactory.

There are a number of travelling shops and sales vans which visit various parts of the district and inspections have been carried out from time to time to ensure that hygienic practices are being complied with.

No prosecutions were taken under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations during the year.

Details of food premises in the area are shown in the following table.

Food Premises

TYPE OF PREMISES					
1.	Hotels and Inns	..	..	..	15
2.	Social Clubs and Public Halls	..			15
3.	School Canteens	..	..	..	10
4.	Works Canteens	..	..	..	3
5.	Butchers	..	..	..	4
6.	General Dealers, Grocers and Confectioners	..	..	..	33
7.	Cafes and Snack Bars	..	..		6
8.	Fish and Chip Shops	..	..		1
9.	Wet Fish Shops	..	..	..	2
10.	Bakehouses	..	..	..	2
11.	Hospitals and Institutes	..	..		2
12.	Ice Cream Manufacturers	..			2
13.	Mineral Water Factory	..	..		1
14.	Chemists	..	..	..	2
TOTAL					98

Ice Cream

Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, for the manufacture of Ice Cream	2
Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, for the sale of pre-packed Ice Cream.. .. .	28

Milk

Routine samples of milk have been taken regularly throughout the year by the County Health Department from all dealers who sell milk in the area. Samples have also been regularly taken of all milk supplied to schools. 21 samples were taken, 10 of which were of milk supplied to schools.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations

There are no pasteurisation plants in the district.

The Slaughter of Poultry Act 1967

There are no poultry processing plants within the district.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Refuse collection and disposal is carried out by direct labour and collections are made from practically all reasonably accessible properties in the District.

In December, the 12 cubic yard Karrier Bantam which had been in use since August 1965 was replaced with a 15 cubic yard, Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper. This latter vehicle which is operated by a driver and two loaders is used to collect from Haltwhistle Town and Plenmeller. The Country District (Gilsland, Greenhead, Redburn, Melkridge, Bardon Mill, Thorngrafton, Beltingham, Henshaw, Slaggyford, Park Village, Coanwood, Kellah, Lambley, Halton-lea-Gate and Whitfield) is served by a 7 cubic yard Ford/Eagle side loader purchased in May 1969, and operated by a driver and one loader.

Refuse is collected from some 2,400 houses, approximately 92% of the inhabited houses in the district, and by estimated weight 2,700 tons of refuse are collected and disposed of yearly.

All refuse is disposed of at Plenmeller with the exception of one half day's refuse per week which is tipped at Lambley. The Council employ a full time tip attendant, but this man has to be used as a relief loader in times of sickness and at holiday periods.

Dangerous Litter Act 1971

No proceedings under this Act were instituted during the year.

Civic Amenities Act 1968

No action under this Act was necessary during the year.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

At the end of the year the number of factories on the register was 36 made up as follows :—

Joiners and Builders Premises	9
Garages and Motor Vehicle Repairs ..	6
Radio and Television Repairs	2
Corn Mill	1
Bakehouses	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers	2
Sanitary Pipe Works	1
Sausage Manufacturers	4
Concrete Products	1
Mineral Water Factory	1
Saw Mill	1
Gas Works.. .. .	1
Plastic and Chemical Factories	3
Paint Works	1
Pressure Cleaning.. .. .	1
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	36
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FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part I of the Act.

I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	33	40	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	10	—	—
TOTAL	46	56	—	—

II.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	2	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	2	2	—	—

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The details of premises registered and the numbers of persons employed show little change from the previous year.

126 visits were made during the year, and all premises generally complied with the provisions of the Act. A few minor contraventions such as failure to display an abstract of the Act, or incomplete first aid kits were noted and were remedied informally.

No accidents were reported during the year, nor were any prosecutions under the Act taken.

Details of premises and persons employed are shown in the following tables.

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered During the year	Total No. of Registered Premises at end of year	No. of Registered Premises Inspected During year
(a) Offices	—	11	11
(b) Retail Shops ..	—	36	36
(c) Wholesale Depts. Warehouses ..	—	—	—
(d) Catering Establishments open to the public ..	—	10	10
(e) Staff Canteens ..	—	1	1
(f) Fuel Storage Depot	—	1	1
TOTALS ..	—	59	59

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed		TOTAL
	Males	Females	
Offices	25	28	53
Retail Shops ..	56	102	158
Wholesale Depts. Warehouses ..	—	—	—
Catering Establishments	2	17	19
Staff Canteens ..	—	9	9
Fuel Storage Depots ..	1	—	1
TOTALS	84	156	240

RODENT CONTROL

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The Council continue to employ a part time rodent operative, and inspection and treatments have been satisfactorily carried out.

The following table gives details of the premises which have been inspected and treated during the year.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district..	2526	343
2. a Total number of properties (including near by premises) inspected following notifications	277	Nil
b Number infested by		
(i) Rats	226	—
(ii) Mice	10	—
3. a Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification..	248	40
b Number infected by :		
(i) Rats	160	—
(ii) Mice	10	—
SEWERS		
4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year ?	No	

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

At present there are four licensed sites in the area, Blenkinsopp Castle, 70 Caravans (40 Residential and 30 Holiday) Yont-the-Cleugh, 30 Caravans (Holiday), and two sites for individual caravans only.

In addition the Caravan Club have issued certificates for three sites each for five caravans at Seldom Seen Farm, Haltwhistle, ; Ashcroft Farm, Bardón Mill ; Broad Mea, Slaggyford.

Public Swimming Baths

There are no public swimming baths in the area.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Places of Entertainment, Circular 120 Ministry of Health

Number of Cinemas	1
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Pet Animals Act 1951

There are no premises in the district registered under this Act.

Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963

There are no licensed establishments in the district.

Noise Abatement Act 1960

No formal action was necessary under this Act.

Clean Air Act 1956

One or two minor complaints were received during the year and were dealt with informally.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

One application for registration under this Act was received and approved. There are at present 6 registered dealers in the district.

General Administration

A total of 676 personal callers making enquiries or complaints were received by the Public Health Department during the year, all matters arising were dealt with.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Council House Applications	..	..	..	..	218
Council Housing (General)	..	..	..	..	102
Housing (Improvement Grants)	..	..	..	..	442
Housing (General)	..	..	..	..	34
Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	4
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	124
Places of Entertainment and Licensed Premises	..				18
Drainage	..	..	..	..	10
Factories	..	..	..	..	56
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	8
Caravan Sites	..	..	..	..	17
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	20
Pest Control	..	..	..	..	19
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	..	161
Water Supplies (General)	..	..	..	..	9
Water Supplies (Sampling)	..	..	..	..	2
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises :	..				
Offices	..	..	..	..	30
Shops	..	..	..	..	64
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	23
Staff canteens	..	..	..	..	8
Fuel Storage Depots	..	..	..	..	1
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	51
					<hr/>
					1,421
					<hr/>

